

THE OMAHA BEE

DAILY (MORNING)-EVENING-SUNDAY

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

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Go it, Brusloff! Go it, beer!

How those detectives do love one another!

A cartoonist at Fargo has been elected to congress. Going up or down?

The world is just coming to appreciate how well Bismarck's work was done.

Some of the political confusion at Berlin may be due to the efficiency of the American crop report.

A branch of the Federal Reserve bank will put Omaha almost where the city's relative importance entitles it to be.

Unless the big four on the west front pick up more speed the bear may beat them, paws down, to the finish at Berlin.

One by one the ogres of decayed royalty are scrapped. The terrors of the Manchou dragon vanish as completely as divine right.

Vastly increased quantities of coal are moving to the fuel storehouses of the country. The chief delay is in moving the price in the right direction.

Well, now that it is all over with, Governor Neville can console himself with the thought that he could have had the commission had he insisted.

New York brokers who are selling Liberty bonds at a discount of 20 cents on the thousand dollars are taking long chances of getting a little notoriety real cheap.

The Chicago Herald wastes much precious paper with maps of territory which Germany planned to conquer. A diagram of the earth would have served better and saved valuable space.

The federal census bureau concedes Omaha's population to be 203,000, which almost equals the 210,000 home estimators have claimed. Just shows how we have been growing lately, and the end is far ahead.

In the debate with Lloyd George, the Gorman chancellor is handicapped. The British premier talks as the spirit and the occasion moves, while Bethmann-Hollweg must adjust his tones to his master's voice.

The pulsing pull of war lends fresh vigor to the pick and shovel brigade in the silver camps of the west. The steady climb of the metal to the 80-cent notch in 1917 shows the pull of Mars mightier than the caloric of 1896.

It is barely ten miles from Bucharest, the old, to Jassy, the new capital of Serbia; yet American Minister Vopica traveled around the world to reach his new station. The longest way 'round proved safer than negotiating the Turco-Bulgarian trenches.

The steel industry of the United States has taken the lead in coming to an agreement with the government, the whole output being placed at the disposal of the authorities, the price to be fixed later. This is a good start on the combination of patriotism and business.

The army information bureau should work the muffer on some features of the French welcome to American troops. Flower showers and hand kisses bestowed by French women lends thrilling local color to the story, but the social side-lights are by no means attractive to all.

Somewhat disfigured, but in the main sound, the cruiser Olympia survived the collision with the uncharted rocks. The famous flagship of the battle of Manila bay deserves a long life for its association with Admiral Dewey and as a muffer of the blustering butinsky, Admiral Diedrichs.

Shock-absorbers are the latest thing in German army efficiency on the west front. Composed of picked men, unmarried and without dependents, they head divisions of charging men and set a killing pace for less seasoned troops. The chances of shock-absorbers reaching "a ripe old age" are about equal to aviators in the same region.

Life of the Skyscraper

Builders and men of allied interests are discussing again the question of the lifetime of the modern skyscraper. When a symposium on this subject was published along in 1905, there still were in the foreground some "ifs" of corrosion vibration and electrolysis as affecting steel frames. Nevertheless, estimates of durability ranged from 5,000 years to a vague "forever."

Today sees the old "ifs" happily disposed of. Tall structures torn down after a decade or more of service have revealed their protected steel work good as new. But the very act through which this reassuring condition has been made known has shown forth the real, lurking enemy of the towering city edifices. The foe of the modern skyscraper is the more modern skyscraper. And the prophet is justified who in the 1905 symposium merely said "as long as we want it to."

The builders of the Pyramids in Egypt did their work, saw that it was well after the fashion and let it alone. No questions intruded upon their attention of increasing ground rents, congesting business or the quest for light and air. It is different in New York. If our present skyscrapers never come to rank among earth's major antiquities, it will be not because the builders did not build for perpetuity but because the owners may have to rebuild to get higher than the current charges.

Political Upheaval in Germany.

Meager and conflicting reports from Berlin admit only one conclusion, and that is that the contest between the Reichstag and the emperor has reached a highly critical stage. If Von Bethmann-Hollweg has placed his resignation as chancellor before the emperor, the action may be taken as the final test of his loyalty. He is willing to allow himself to be sacrificed to relieve his imperial master of embarrassment in dealing with a recalcitrant faction for the time in control of the assembly. It must be understood, though, that the chancellor is responsible to the emperor and not to the Reichstag. Therefore, it is difficult to believe that any of his acts since the beginning of the war have been taken without full knowledge and approval of the kaiser, and if his resignation is now accepted it will be only because the emperor so wills.

Ballot reform, no matter how extensive, would be a tub thrown to a whale, so long the fundamental organization of the German confederation remains unchanged. William II has fairly countered this demand by taking the crown prince into counsel, saying any proposed change affects not only the present emperor but his successor. Concessions as to the empire will not affect the situation in Prussia, in which kingdom the junkers are entrenched. The Reichstag's threat to refuse further war credit may be discounted, as that would lead to such a situation as developed a few years ago when the credit for the naval program was refused by the assembly and was secured through exercise by the emperor of his authority under the constitution to provide for the defense of the empire.

A change in ministers and a definite statement of policy will very likely quiet the present storm. In the meantime, none are deluded by any thought that the Germans are not united in the prosecution of the war. On the contrary, they were never more united.

Omaha and the Federal Reserve Bank.

It is now definitely settled that the assurance given Omaha some time ago that a branch of the federal reserve bank for our district would be opened in this city is to be made good, a second branch to be established at the same time in Denver.

While this is gratifying recognition of the financial importance of Omaha, it cannot, and should not, stop Omaha's ambition to have the headquarters reserve bank for this district instead of a mere branch of it, assuming that the present district organization is maintained. The same considerations that are now bringing about the location of the branch can be urged with increased force for the conversion of the branch into a main bank, although we may be sure that such a change would evoke a stronger opposition than the competition for one of the reserve banks in the first place. There is bound, however, eventually to be a rearrangement of the districts—possibly also a reduction of their number, in which event Omaha and Kansas City would both become branches, one of Chicago and the other of St. Louis—in which Omaha's position should be still more important.

Whatever the developments may be, therefore, the present establishment of the Omaha branch should serve to keep us in line for another move upward at the next time, whenever it may come, and spur us to keep awake for it.

Profits and Patriotism.

President Wilson deftly sugcoats a pill he proposes to have the business concerns of the country swallow, but underneath the carefully worded phrases of his letter dealing with the general topic of purchases for public uses may be discerned a determination to head off any move to hold up the government on prices. His appeal to patriotism will have a decided moral effect, but in a general way much more than this is to be considered. Patriotism alone will not pay rent nor meet pay rolls, nor discharge any of the many obligations that rest on the management of any extensive enterprise.

The president has enumerated the principal items in the business budget which largely determine selling prices—good wages, reasonable profits and a surplus ample to take care of needed extensions of the business, which have to be provided for. This, of course, contemplates the payment of taxes the government levies for its needs. Fixation of prices, however, may have its reflex in the lowering of collections on incomes and excess profits and so necessitate a revision of the revenue laws. This will raise the further question of relations between controlled and uncontrolled industries, with all its possibility for complication and misunderstanding.

The whole situation is novel in our national experience, and while the president and his boards may succeed in working out a plan that will be equitable and produce results, the one thing certain is that wealth must be more generally employed than ever in America. The idle dollar now is as much of a slacker as the idle man.

Morals and Military Service.

Much misunderstanding as to moral conditions in the army seems to arise from the misdirected energy of zealous persons who are anxious to have pet schemes for controlling the enlisted youth incorporated in the discipline. Some little local debate has arisen over this point, and little enough has been done to properly clean it up. Army officers are required by discipline passively to listen to much they know is wrong in every particular, avoiding all approach to dispute with civilians, and out of this grows the misconception that prevails. As a matter of fact, the morals of the army are of an unusually high standard. The term "officer and gentleman" is not an empty phrase in the American service, but means all it implies. These men have a much deeper interest in the welfare of their men than is understood by the outsider.

An officer's own personal career depends on the efficiency of the men under his command and for whom he is responsible. If no other reason existed, his own personal standing urges him to jealously guard the health of his men and to see that they are well taken care of in every way. This requires not only observation, but actual oversight of the personal habits of all, and this control is rigidly enforced. "Single men in barracks don't grow into plaster saints," but competent officers provide means whereby youthful propensities are prudently held in check and are able to produce results that warranted an experienced officer who was in service at Llano Grande last summer in saying the moral tone of the great camp would compare favorably with that of any village in Nebraska.

Fathers and mothers may be sure that boys going out from home will be watched with utmost vigilance as to their behavior in the army and that none of them will come under influences more destructive of good morals than are encountered in their daily walk through a city.

A Navy for the Air Machines and Men By Frederic J. Haskin

Washington, July 10.—Not long ago there was an extended debate in the English House of Commons over some phase of the aircraft situation. Finally arose a member who is closely connected with the aircraft industry and the air service and remarked, "Gentlemen, if you will provide for the selection of our best aviator and our best aeroplane, and the sending of that man and that machine to the United States, you will do more toward winning the war than has been done by all the debates that have been held in this house since August, 1914."

This man, who knows the problems of building an immense fleet of aeroplanes and sending them to the front in a hurry, spoke from a realization of what are to be our two principal tasks in preparing our aerial navy. The task has two main parts—getting the machines and getting the men. The speaker in the House of Commons indicated in a somewhat epigrammatic way that by sending its best battle-planes to America to serve for models and some of its best men to serve as instructors, England would be paving the way for the return of such aeroplanes and such aviators in the ratio of a thousand to one.

The United States will have the benefit of the best English and French experience in building battle-planes. A commission of 125 American experts is already in England studying methods and designs. A number of French aviators taken direct from the battle front have been in this country for some time acting in an advisory capacity. There is no reason to doubt that we will build as good machines as any that are built in Europe. In certain types, notably the small, very fast and somewhat unsafe machines used for attack and pursuit, we have never built anything that quite equals the allies' machines. This is due partly to the fact that our manufacturers do not exactly keep the factor of safety high at a sacrifice of some speed and quickness of response.

Under the circumstances, this is the soundest policy. An aviator can learn his trade in a machine making 110 miles an hour sufficiently well to give battle effectively in one that makes 130 miles. In the slower machine he is only about half as likely to be accidentally killed, and each aviator represents a national asset worth some thousands of dollars, taking six or eight months of expert training to replace.

On the other hand, in the manufacture of certain types of machines we already equal, if we do not excel, any nation on earth. Our heavy bombing planes, our seaplanes and our training planes are recognized as equal to the best. There is no reason to doubt that we will produce the machines for our air navy in sufficient quantity of the best types. The Aircraft Production board, which planned first to construct only 3,500 aeroplanes the first year, now feels confident that we can produce many times that number. In the very important matter of engines, indications are not lacking that we will develop a better type than either the English or the French. At the bureau of standards they are working on the perfection of an aeroplane engine to be known as the "All America," which will be standardized for large scale production. Naturally no details are to be given out concerning the engine, but there have been enthusiastic unofficial reports concerning the performance of the model on which the standard type is said to be based.

Some of the more enthusiastic supporters of the aeroplane program speak of 100,000 aeroplanes flying over Germany. Eventually we could come to that, but it is a long way off. It would mean at least 200,000 aeroplanes in all, and our pending bill only calls for 42,000 engines. Moreover, 100,000 machines are probably more than we need. Ten thousand aviators can turn the scale, according to many of the experts.

In this nation of 100,000,000 there are surely 10,000 men to be found for the work as good as any on earth. They will need some 40,000 machines, and the entire strength of the aerial branch of the military service will need not far from 100,000 men if we are to have an actual flying service of 10,000 strong. This is about two-thirds of the war strength of the navy.

The United States is making excellent progress toward building up the personnel of its service. It is probable that some 1,400 men will be graduated into active service by the beginning of September. After that time, of course, the output of aviators should increase from month to month. Some time ago it was decided to open technical training courses for aviation cadets in six of the leading American technical colleges. The Universities of California, Michigan, Illinois and Ohio, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Cornell university sent representatives to Canada's great aviation training camp—Camp Borden. American methods are modeled on the experience of Canada. These cadet courses are confined to theoretical and "ground" work; after two months those who qualify will be sent to aviation training grounds for training in the air. We will probably have twenty-four such training grounds erected at the cost of \$1,000,000 each, in addition to four aviation grounds already existing belonging to the army and the navy and a duplicate American training ground in France. One of the leading features of the training situation is the need for expert instructors, whom we naturally cannot supply in great numbers. For such men we may call on the allies.

Shafts Aimed at Omaha

Franklin News: The tax-dodgers of Omaha are busy explaining that "it isn't so" and that Assessor Fitzgerald got his wires crossed when he hiked their assessments to so high a point. However, when the last complaint is heard it is more than likely that Omaha's assessment will be a good many thousand dollars more this year than it ever has been before.

Friend Telegraph: Omaha is not feeling very jolly over the cantonment for this district going to Des Moines. Oh, well, Des Moines is but a town of Greater Omaha. Some complaints have been entered because Senator Hitchcock did not rush in and fill the breach. When Omaha turned down David Mercer it announced that it had received everything that it wanted, and Senator Hitchcock and the government are evidently taking Omaha at its word.

Lincoln Star: An Omaha dispatch the other day quoted "Billy" Sunday's joyful exclamation when, upon landing at the station in that city, he saw no smoke from a nearby brewery; but a visitor to Omaha next day was surprised to find smoke rolling out of two or three big smokestacks of the brewery that is within sight of the station. Was "Billy" trying to give the metropolis a doctored certificate of good character, or is near-beer smoke no smoke at all?

Nebraska Press Comment

Kearney Hub: The Lincoln Journal wonders whether this newspaper talk of Senator Hitchcock's aspirations is a "joke" or has some meaning. It is not a joke. Nothing touching the Hitchcock ambition is a joke. No man in public life today takes himself more seriously than Senator Hitchcock, and few of them as much so. The presidential gossip is a feeler and can be taken with absolute seriousness.

Tekamah Journal: State Auditor Smith has raised a storm of disapproval over his course in having a young woman discharged from the employ of the state in his office because she was unwilling to buy a Liberty bond because she could not afford to spend the money at the time. The strange part of the attitude of Auditor Smith is that he is a son of a veteran and the young woman is the daughter of a veteran of the civil war. He has let his idea of patriotism warp his good judgment. The young woman was the best judge of her ability to buy a bond. He should have given her credit for being just as patriotic as he dared himself to be. He should right his error at once and reinstate her in her former position.

CLAY Proverb for the day. Extremes sometimes meet.

One Year Ago Today in the War. British cut off Mametz Woods. Austrians dropped bombs on Padua, Italy. Russians captured important heights southeast of Mamakhtun in Armenia.

In Omaha Thirty Years Ago. The Ladies' Aid society of Hanscom Park Methodist Episcopal church held a lawn social at the residence of Mr. Koons on Virginia avenue.

A petition was presented to Mayor Broatch by the citizens whose dormitories environ Jefferson park, praying



that the Salvation Army be compelled to discontinue evening convocations in the square. Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Hill announce the arrival of a bouncing daughter—nine and a half pounds.

E. M. Bent, who is sent in his resignation as superintendent of the Pullman-Pacific line and will indulge in a trip to Europe. While Jerry O'Brien was engaged in removing false portions of the bridge which is in course of construction on the Union Pacific road at Seventh street, one of the beams fell on his right foot and inflicted a serious bruise.

The Metropolitan Gun club held its initial shoot in which the following took part: Charles Farrer, James Borland, Chris Christanson, John Umpherson, Carl McManus, Tom McGrane, Lou Webb, William Rate, Will Umpherson, Anton Christian, Mike McCarthy, Matthew Holmes, Lester Finley, Peter McCann.

This Day in History.

- 1842—The duke of Orleans, eldest son of King Louis Philippe of France, was killed by a fall from his carriage. 1863—Capture of Yazoo City, Miss., by the federals. 1874—Attempt on the life of Prince Bismarck by Wilhelm. 1878—Close of the Berlin Congress for the settlement of the eastern question. 1894—Patrick E. Prendergast executed by guillotine as mayor of Mayor Carter Harrison of Chicago. 1896—Porfirio Diaz was re-elected president of Mexico without opposition. 1898—A mid type of yellow fever appeared among the American troops in Cuba. 1900—Bombardment of Tien Tsin by the allies, who lost 775 killed and wounded in eighteen hours' fighting. 1915—Martial law was proclaimed throughout Spain because of the railroad strikes.

The Day We Celebrate.

- Richard M. Lavery is just 43 today. He is actively identified with the live stock commission business in Omaha. Dr. H. A. Atwater, the dentist, was born July 13, 1855, at Gainsburg, Pa. He graduated from Maryland university at Baltimore. W. C. Langdon, veterinarian, is 65 today. He was born at Pleasant, N. J., and was located at Fargo, N. D., before coming to Omaha. Dr. Franklin H. Martin, Chicago surgeon, head of the department of medicine and surgery of the Council of National Defense, born at Oconomowoc, Wis., sixty years ago today. Rt. Hon. Walter Hume Long, secretary of state for the colonies in the British cabinet, born at Bath, England, sixty-three years ago today. Orton M. Barber, associate judge of the United States court of customs appeals, born at Jamaica, Vt., sixty years ago today. Sidney Webb, eminent English economist and writer on social and industrial problems, born in London fifty-eight years ago today. Mary E. Woolley, president of Mt. Holyoke college, born at South Norwalk, Conn., fifty-four years ago today.

Timely Jottings and Reminders.

"Friday, the thirteenth." The grand lodge of the order of Elks concludes its meeting in Boston today. Representatives of the motion picture industry throughout the country will assemble in Chicago today for the annual convention and exhibition of the Motion Picture Exhibitors' League of America.

Another special meeting of the board of directors of the National Base Ball league is to be held in New York City today to reopen the controversy between John K. Tener, president of the league, and John J. McGraw, manager of the New York club.

An auction sale of the furnishings of the St. Denis hotel today will mark the passing of the last of the famous old hotels that once flourished on lower Broadway, south of Fourteenth street, in New York City.

A third American conference on democracy and terms of peace, similar to the meetings held recently in New York City and Chicago, has been called to meet today in San Francisco.

Storyette of the Day.

A man was very sick. He had a good doctor, but the doctor was puzzled about his case, so he held a consultation. Four other doctors came, looked wise, and their heads and hands went away. Then the original doctor summoned the patient's wife. "I must tell you that your husband is in a serious condition," he said. "If he is religiously inclined, I should advise that you send for a minister without delay."

"Yes, doctor," answered the wife. "Shall I just get the family minister or will he need a consultation?"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

SAND.

Canton's Magazine. I observed a locomotive in the railroad yards one day. It was waiting in the roundhouse, where it was panting for the journey, it was cooled and fully manned. And had a box the fireman was filling full of sand. It appears that locomotives cannot always get a grip. On their slender iron pavement 'cause the wheels are apt to slip. And when they reach the slippery spot their tactics they command. And to get a grip upon the rail they sprinkle it with sand. If your track is steep and billy and you have a heavy load, it's a good idea. And if those who've gone before you have the rails quite slippery made; If you ever reach the summit of the upper tableland, You'll find you'll have to do it with a liberal use of sand. If you strike some frigid weather and discover a heavy frost, That you're liable to slip on a heavy coat of frost. Then some prompt, decided action will be called into demand. And you'll slide clear to the bottom if you haven't any sand. You can get to any station that is on life's absolute sand-barred road. If there's fire beneath the boiler of ambition's strong machine. And when the steam is called Rightdown at a rate of speed that's grand; If for all the slippery places you've a good supply of sand.

The Bee's Letter Box

How to Check Disloyalty. Omaha, July 12.—To the Editor of The Bee: The findings of the State Council for National Defense will be accepted by the majority as true, but its conclusions as to the remedy being a campaign of education are decidedly lame. The glaring defect in the report is the omission of the names of German sympathizers, the effect of which is to cast suspicion upon many innocent men, including the most of the university professors.

The time has come to name the traitors or near-traitors and make examples of them. If the council will do its duty in that regard a campaign of education would take care of itself. The nation is at war. Let us abandon feather-duster methods. Scotch the snakes. LOYALIST.

Too Much Leniency Shown.

North Platte, Neb., July 11.—To the Editor of The Bee: A special dispatch from San Francisco says President Wilson has requested that the late shown Henry Ruhl, the hotel man who shouted "hypocrite" when the president's photograph was flashed on a screen in a moving picture house, and the case was dismissed accordingly. I am sure that too much leniency is given to this class of people, and in this connection I wish to say that in this international struggle of democracy against autocracy Americans should hold the thought that whether a foreign-born citizen be a German, Belgian, Frenchman, Spaniard or Englishman he should be called upon to prove his Americanism. JOHN P. COADY.

Cultivate Moral Courage.

Omaha, July 12.—To the Editor of The Bee: It is at least as necessary for the people who remain at home in this hour of the nation's peril to cultivate moral courage as it is for our splendid young men who go to the front to cultivate physical courage. While commending your sound editorial referring to the Nebraska defense council's report, as well as that report itself, I make this observation with special reference to the council's report.

Now if there are business firms in this state who have threatened bankers on account of the latter's interest in Liberty bond sales; if there are professors in our universities who are disloyal or unpatriotic; if "most influential members of the Lutheran church" are pro-German at a time when our nation is at war with Germany, then it is the right of the people to know who these business firms that would withdraw deposits from banks; it is their right to know who are the unpatriotic professors; it is their right to have pointed out to them the disloyal Lutheran.

My protest is simply to the Editor: Neither the council nor bankers should place all business interests, or even all German business men, under suspicion. It should not leave the matter in such light that every professor in the university must either be left under a cloud or come out in public and say, "Is it I to whom you refer?" It should not leave the people in the dark so that they will look upon all "influential Lutherans" with distrust. It is the duty of the council to point out the things it has pointed out. It is still more its duty to name the disloyal people it has in mind. I admit that it requires moral courage to do this, but a defense council without moral courage is worse than no council at all. I sincerely trust that Nebraska's defense council is not of that character. Perhaps our council only published its statement as a warning. If that was its purpose I cannot approve of the publicity. Its first warning should have been private. If that should fall names should be furnished to the public. L. J. QUINBY.

What Is Democracy?

Omaha, July 11.—To the Editor of The Bee: I have been reading with a good deal of interest mixed with curiosity of the way in which the word "democracy" is so freely used by the people of the United States, including nearly all publications. I do not think the term democracy applies at all to the present fight throughout the world for the destruction of autocracy. I think it should be called a fight for republicanism, and I will try to be as brief as the subject will permit in elucidating my ideas on the subject. For it is a subject that interests all the people of the world today.

The general definition of democracy that I find is: That government in which the people rule. A form of government in which the supreme power is lodged in the hands of the people collectively or in which the people exercise the powers of legislation. The basis of democracy is equality, as that of aristocracy is privilege. But equality of itself is no guarantee for liberty. Absolute democracy existed in antiquity and the middle ages. They never have endured for any length of time. History shows that absolute democracy is anything

rather than a convertible term for liberty. The definition of a democrat that I find is that person or party who adheres to the government of the people and favors the extension of the right of suffrage to all classes of men. With such a definition before me I think it sounds very inconsistent for the press of the United States to talk so glibly about democracy when it is well known that millions of men are kept from voting in this nation today. We should shew a little consistency before thinking of democratizing the whole world.

The United States is not a democracy in any sense of the word. It is a republic. The definition of a republic is that of a commonwealth. A state in which the exercise of sovereign power is lodged in representatives elected by the people. In modern usage it differs from a democracy or democratic state, in which the people exercise the powers of sovereignty in person.

A republican government is described as a government in the republican form, a government of the people. It is usually put in opposition to a monarchical or aristocratic government. The fourth section of the fourth article of the Constitution of the United States directs that "the United States shall guarantee to every state in the union a republican form of government." The form of government is guaranteed, which supposes a form already established, and this is the republican form of government in the United States has undertaken to protect. The heathen Chinese, as we used to call them, are more advanced today than we are, for they do not claim to be what so many without knowing what they are talking about call a democracy. The Chinese speak of the republic and of the republican army. The French people speak of the republic and of the republicans and the republican army of France.

There is no democracy in the world today, and cannot be with such tremendous populations. The only consistent form of government is that of a republic and of republican institutions.

I think it is time a halt was called on the glib and free use of the word democracy, for it is not a consistent term to use at this time. The word democracy has been used so much of late that it causes a suspicion on the part of a great many people that there is something back of all of the use of the term. When the United States constitution guarantees a republican form of government to all the states of the union it is time the people about democracy was stopped and talk of the republican form of government of the United States of America instead. FRANK A. AGNEW.

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